Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-12 FEA-01 ERDA-05

AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 /110 W

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R 301630Z MAY 75 FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3507 INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS AMEMBASSY RABAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV ENRG EIND MO SUBJ: ESSO-GOM DISPUTE

REF: CASABLANCA 0339 (NOTAL)

1. ESSO'S SKANE GIVES FOLLOWING REPORT FROM THIS WEEK'S LONDON MEETING OF ESSO NY, EUROPE, AND AFRICA OFFICIALS ON THEIR MOROCCANIZATION PROBLEMS. ESSO WILL INSTITUTE SUITS HERE NEXT WEEK (TO MEET MOROCCAN LEGAL DEADLINES) CHALLENGING LEGALITY OF REQUISITION. ESSO AFRICA PRESIDENT PROPOSES COME TO MOROCCO MID-JUNE TO MEET WITH PM (AGAINST WHOM SUITS DIRECTED) TO EXPLAIN REASON FOR LEGAL ACTION NOW, AND TO PROPOSE GOM 100 PERCENT BUY OUT OF ESSO-MAROC. EXXON WASHINGTON REP AND ESSO AFRICA PRESIDENT PLAN CALL ON WILEY IN WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK TO PRESENT FULL REVIEW AND SITREP AND REQUEST USG ASSISTANCE IN RESOLVING ISSUE.

2. ESSO WILL NOT INSTITUTE TRADEMARK SUITS AT THIS TIME BUT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WILL ASK BUY OUT ON SAME BASIS IT PROPOSED FOR MOROCCANIZATION:

BOOK VALUE WITH IMMEDIATE REPATRIATION OF PROCEEDS OR PAYMENT OF INTERNATIONAL INTEREST RATE ON BLOCKED FUNDS (GOM FREE TO TAX INTEREST). ESSO JUDGMENT IS THAT DISMANTLING OF ESSO MAROC AND DETERIORATION OF ESSO-SNPP RELATIONS HAVE GONE SO FAR PIECES CANNOT BE PUT BACK TOGETHER. IT CANNOT, THEREFORE, CONSIDER RESUMPTION OF OPERATIONS HERE.

3. SKANE INSTRUCTED TO REPORT ABOVE TO AMB NEXT WEEK AND SEEK HIS HELP FOR MEETING WITH PRIMIN. SKANE BEING TRANSFERRED LATE JUNE TO NIGERIA AND ESSO WILL BE REPRESENTED HERE ONLY BY LOCAL LAWYER AND VISITORS FROM LONDON.
BRUBECK

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review

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